

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the Title of the invention has been amended, as requested by the Examiner. Entry of the new Title is respectfully requested.

As a second preliminary matter, with respect to the Response to Election/Restriction Requirement, filed April 29, 2004, Applicants wish to point out to the Examiner that the grounds for traversal of the Election/Restriction Requirement were expressly stated as there being no “undue burden on the Examiner,” and not merely because there was some overlap between features of the several identified species. It not enough for the Examiner to demonstrate that *some* burden is placed upon the Examiner to examine two claims in addition to the other 25, but actually that the examination of these two additional claims would place an undue burden on the Examiner. The Examiner has not established, or even asserted, that the examination of two additional claims only, out of the original 27, would place an undue or serious burden upon him. Accordingly, Applicants submit that no serious burden is placed upon the Examiner by the examination of claims 15 and 16, and therefore respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the Election/Restriction Requirement.

Claims 1-14 and 17-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that a single means claim is unduly broad. In response, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 in order to expedite prosecution, and in an attempt to more clearly represent the embodiments described in the Specification to the Application, to which the Examiner generally refers. Dependent claims 2-3, 12, and 22-24 have also been amended

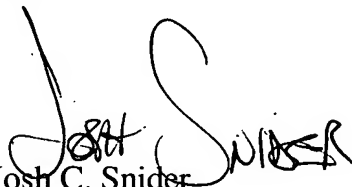
for grammatical consistency with newly amended claim 1. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection are respectfully requested in light of these amendments.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 1-27, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By


Josh C. Snider
Registration No. 47,954

Customer No. 24978

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300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
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